

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 03811 261532Z
ACTION H-02

INFO OCT-01 SCSE-00 ISO-00 EUR-12 /015 W
-----261620Z 125793 /43

P 261414Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 209

UNCLAS ATHENS 3811

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, GR, (SAHPAZIS, JOHN)
SUBJECT: W/W: JOHN SAHPAZIS

H - PASS: HONORABLE DON EDWARDS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

1. REFERENCE IS MADE TO YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 13, 197, REGARDING
THE DIFFICULTIES YOUR CONSTITUENT, JOHN SAHPAZIS, IS EXPERIENCING
WITH THE HERTZ HELLAS AUTOMOBILE RENTAL COMPANY IN GREECE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO YOUR INQUIRY A MEMBER OF THE CONSULATE STAFF
CONTACTED THE GENERAL MANAGER OF HERTZ HELLAS, MR. FRANCOIS
ROBRECHT, WHO PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION. IT WAS ONLY
IN LATE MARCH OF THIS YEAR THAT THE ATTORNEY FOR MR SAHPAZIS
PROVIDED HERTZ HELLAS WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING THE LOCATION
OF THE CAR. AS INDICATED IN THE EMBASSY'S PREVIOUS TELEGRAM, IN
THE ABSENCE OF ANY REPORT FROM MR SAHPAZIS, THE CAR WAS REPORTED
STOLEN BY HERTZ HELLAS AND THEY HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED COMPENSATION
FROM THEIR INSURANCE COMPANY. MR ROBRECHT FURTHER INDICATED
THAT THE INSURANCE COMPANY WAS UNWILLING TO CONSIDER ANY
PAYMENT TO MR SAHPAZIS SINCE HE DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE
TERMS OF THE CONTRACT HE SIGNED WHICH REQUIRED NOTIFICATION
WITHIN 48 HOURS OF ANY ACCIDENT. AS A CONSEQUENCY, MR ROBRECHT
CONTINUED, THE INSURANCE COMPANY WAS UNABLE TO INTERVIEW
MR SAHPAZIS, TO INVESTIGATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ACCIDENT,
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AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, UNABLE TO INSPECT THE CAR TO DETERMINE IF ANY
MECHANISM WAS DEFECTIVE. HE REGRETTED MR SAHPAZIS' PLIGHT BUT INDICAT
ED
THAT HERTZ HELLAS COULD NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE NOR COULD IT
ASSIST MR SAHPAZIS AS HE DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF HIS
RENTAL AND INSURANCE AGREEMENT.

3. MR NONTAS LAMBADARIOS OF THE LAMBADARIOS LAW FIRM, ATTORNEYS FOR HERTZ HELLAS, CONFIRMED THE ABOVE STATEMENT, STATING THAT HAD MR SAHPAZIS REPORTED THE ACCIDENT WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD INDICATED, A PROPER INVESTIGATION COULD HAVE BEEN MADE. HE CONTINUED THAT SINCE NOTIFICATION WAS NOT MADE AND THAT ONLY RECENTLY HAD NOTIFICATION BEEN PROVIDED CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF THE CAR, HERTZ HAD INITIATED A CLAIM AGAINST MR SAHPAZIS FOR LOSS OF PROFIT DUE TO THE LOSS OF THE CAR.

4. THE EMBASSY APPRECIATES YOUR CONCERN AND THAT OF YOUR CONSTITUENT FOR SETTLEMENT OF THIS MATTER. HOWEVER, THE EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE IN A PRIVATE LEGAL DISPUTE. FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS ARE PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL REGULATION FROM ACTING ON BEHALF OF THIRD PARTIES IN LEGAL MATTERS AND CONSEQUENTLY, WE REGRET THAT WE CANNOT OFFER MR SAHPAZIS THE TYPE OF ASSISTANCE HE REQUESTS. AS INDICATED IN THE COPY OF MR SAHPAZIS' LETTER TO THE EMBASSY ENCLOSED WITH YOUR CORRESPONDENCE, MR SAHPAZIS WAS VISITED BY A CONSULAR OFFICER WHO ASSISTED MR SAHPAZIS AT HIS SPECIFIC REQUEST IN NOTIFYING VARIOUS PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES OF HIS ACCIDENT. MR SAHPAZIS DID NOT REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN NOTIFYING HERTZ OF THE ACCIDENT, HOWEVER.

5. PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT MR SAHPAZIS' REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND THE EMBASSY REGRETS THAT IT IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE THIS TYPE OF ASSISTANCE. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT HE MAY WISH TO SELECT A LOCAL ATTORNEY WHO CAN REPRESENT HIS INTERESTS IN THIS MATTER FROM THE LIST OF ATTORNEYS ALREADY PROVIDED TO HIM.

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AMERICAN EMBASSY
ATHENS, GREECE.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: ATHENS
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ISecure: 1
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: W/W: JOHN SAHPAZIS H - PASS: HONORABLE DON EDWARDS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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